

21 JUN 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Economic Research

SUBJECT : Participants' Reactions to the Economic Intelligence Seminar

1. Submitted herewith as Attachment 1 are statements written on the Comment Form by those attending the 30 May Economic Intelligence Seminar. These comments suggest not only the success of the seminar, but also the great need felt by Agency professionals for this type of communication. Some of these comments may also be of value to you in your work with small groups of collectors and support officers as you brief them on OER's needs.

2. Suggestions submitted for future OTR Forums, some of which deal either primarily or in part with OER's work, are submitted in Attachment 2. You will note that CIA work on narcotics and dangerous drugs, and environmental problems around the world, are two topics which a number of individuals expressed an interest in.

  
Acting Director of Training

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2 - ADTR (w/atts)  
2 - SIWA (1 w/h)

25X1A OTR/SIWA/:sks (20 June 72)

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Attachment 1

Comments on Economic Intelligence

Seminar

30 May 1972

Very good seminar on a very topical subject. The ideas were well presented with a minimum of economic jargon which made it most informative to a wide variety of backgrounds and interests. OER should be commended for a job well done

This was a useful and interesting forum which attuned me to the new demands now being placed upon CIA in the economic field. I would have appreciated some treatment of East-West trade and of the EEC, but what was covered was covered well. I would also have appreciated a handout or two, preferably unclassified, relevant to the forum.

Good subject matter, poor use of the time. Background and current scene could have been covered in less time, leaving full hour for real seminar-type exchange. Fundamental questions crying for debate: why are financial and commercial executives more inclined to give critical information to DCS than to other USG representatives? Will this situation continue: What are long-range collection programs of State and Commerce in this regard? What plans do DCS and CRS have for handling considerable increase in the flow of classified and unclassified material that is implicit in the collection projection that was made in the presentation from the rostrum? What can analysts expect in the way of efficient processing of this increased volume of material. [REDACTED] x2096.

Interesting (long overdue) approach to opening up a segment of CIA's intelligence production office's activity for internal discussion. There should be follow-up discussions with a more limited focus on economic topics--e.g., planned and past publication production for specific areas of the world--including a discussion of sources that have been used and open discussions of collection assets and better ways to maximize collection to satisfy OER intelligence needs. I would recommend contacting IRS to explore the possibility of using Publications Source Survey data--all DDI and DDS&T IMs, IRs, and Black CIB items are surveyed for a rating of sources used.

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] I am interested in the extent to which OER analysts use material from overt sources in writing their reports and, also, the extent to which they rely on [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] I found the seminar very interesting and I look forward to future ventures.

I found the seminar of general interest in that it covered subjects with which I was not too familiar and which have some applicability to my work.

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25X1A I was interested in hearing a current statement of this problem as  
25X1A a possible consideration in CT selection. I think there should  
have been some consideration of OER support of the newly formed  
US-USSR Commission to study increasing trade. An interesting and  
useful morning. The [REDACTED] case study was particularly well done and  
might make a good IWA or IPC presentation. [REDACTED] OTR/CTP

The total impact of the seminar was excellent--scope, delivery of  
topics, and emphasis on CIA's contribution to the decision-makers.  
I would suggest the following for consideration at a future  
running: (a) adding representatives of Commerce and Treasury to the  
panel of speakers, (b) allowing time for some dialogue with the  
audience, (c) publishing a brief listing of Agency finished publica-  
tions on Economic Support to US in past 18 months. [REDACTED] OTR.

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Only of slight relevance. [From DDS&T]

Excellent as a whole. I'm sorry my whole branch in CRS wasn't able  
to attend. Well organized and well presented--all speakers. I  
appreciated each speaker's honesty about his element's own weak-  
nesses in the economic field (particularly the panel). The emphasis  
on the economic intelligence (US vs. foreign countries) will no doubt  
be reflected in CRS' subject input to AEGIS, with more emphasis on  
USA.

The dramatic change in OER's needs and areas of concern can be  
equally important to the CRS indexing and retrieval for computer.  
OER's needs are of CRS concern. CRS selection for subject indexing  
will be better for knowing of OER concern and emphasis. Since there  
will be many negotiations in the next two years for trade and a  
new monetary system, CRS needs to build up its own biographic support  
program as well.

The sheer morale value of the seminar was enormous. We economic  
analysts and processors have felt unsung and unloved for too long!  
As a USSR analyst, I think someone might cover the less obvious  
implications or seemingly minor topics relating to the USSR, similar  
to the Chilean example; for example, the difficulties US business  
encounters in getting a toehold in the USSR. It's impressive to  
see the calibre of individuals at work within the Agency. Thanks  
for the shot of confidence in the team!

Seminar was excellent and relevant to my work which is a supporting  
role to economic problems. Would have been interested hearing more  
on drug traffic and what OER is doing in the research area on this  
topic.

Excellent. Case studies were extremely useful.

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I consider this seminar an excellent beginning in examining what the Agency's role should be in responding to the changed circumstances in the international economic arena. A wider publicity program, which would result in wider and enthusiastic attendance, would probably stimulate audience comment, something that was left hanging at this meeting.

The seminar was a good overview and background for the new emphasis on economics within the Intelligence Community and the Agency in particular. While the seminar did not do much more than mention my area of interest (China), I enjoyed hearing the case studies about Japan, Chile, and the search for new exchange parities.

Such a session would be better if conducted as 2 sessions, as 3.5 hours are too long for one sitting, even with a 10-minute break. Too much "patting themselves on the back." Otherwise, informative, especially the remarks by Dr. Ernst.

STATSPEC This seminar was of great interest and direct value to my work in an [REDACTED] I was rather disappointed, however, that no mention was made to collection of economic information from open sources, such as we do. I thought that Maurice Ernst's presentation was especially informative and was presented on just the right level to give a good background to intelligent non-economists.

Provided good background of general world-wide economic problems against which to judge USSR developments.

More comment on future trends would have been helpful.

The seminar was only partially successful in relating to my work. I was interested, as a document analyst in CRS, in receiving guidelines on future economic reporting and requesting patterns and the three OER case studies were quite helpful in this area. I enjoyed Mr. Ernst's presentation and profited by his explanation of US economic policy and problems but would have liked more of the seminar to have been oriented to future requirements and areas of interest.

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[REDACTED] I was highly satisfied with the lavish, although not totally unexpected praise heaped on my component. Individual presentations at the "Seminar" were generally well prepared. Unfortunately, they did not add very much to my knowledge of the situation and, in particular,

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did not provide much guidance for [REDACTED]. The topic of the meeting itself was not fully explored. Not a single reference was made to the scarcity and/or rising cost to the US and other developed countries of raw materials, particularly in the energy field (e.g., natural gas). In spite of the legitimate plea by the DCS member of the Collection Panel for safeguards concerning the sensitivity of information acquired from [REDACTED],

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OER presentations violated security unnecessarily by references to specific US sources of information. Surely, it would have sufficed to credit [REDACTED] with particular insights rather than naming it, as was done. My criticism is offered in a constructive fashion. It is to be hoped that similar training exercises can focus more clearly on future needs than on the seemingly unwarranted review of noble achievements in the recent past. Well presented written communications from analytical elements of the Agency are preferable to seminars, particularly if they are so large as to preclude active participation from the floor.

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ATTACHMENT 2

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Proposed Topics for Future OTR Forums  
Given on Comment Sheets on Economic Intelligence Seminar

30 May 1972

China:

Strategic forces  
Economy, industry, missiles, nuclear  
New China priorities  
Chinese missiles  
Inter-disciplinary analysis of the China political scene  
China science and technology  
Rapid expansion of China's industry; its impact on China  
and the world

USSR:

SALT: The Agency's new role (3) \*  
Its affect on CS collection requirements  
Soviet missiles (2)  
Periodic review on the USSR (could be 1-2 hours, deal with  
major issues)  
USSR military topics  
USSR science and technology  
Soviet vs US missile strength  
New slants on reporting on USSR (i.e., US-USSR trade, USSR  
as a source of energy)

Communist World:

US economic and political relations with Communist countries  
(especially Eastern Europe)  
CIA work on Eastern Europe (foreign trade prospects, special  
collection problems, CEMA organization and its problems)

Clandestine Service:

Exchange of views on the future with DDI and DDP representatives  
Working relationship between DDI analyst, DDP desk officers,  
and DCS case officers  
A broad discussion of DDP (without revealing operational secrets)

\* Number in parentheses shows number of participants who listed this subject

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US Policy:

US foreign policy (by an articulate administration policy maker  
on the view from the White House)  
Nature and scope of US intelligence support for national security  
policy needs  
New CIA customers in Washington (Commerce, Treasury, CIEP)

CIA's Future:

CIA Trends and Highlights (for those too old or too busy for  
Midcareer course, Advanced Intelligence Seminar, or Senior  
Seminar) (2)  
New priorities for CIA in the 1970's -- analytical and  
collection  
Will CIA have to change its structure to meet the demands of  
the new era?  
More work with fewer people -- how? (Separate briefings for  
different levels of employees)

Other Topics:

Environmental problems around the world (4)  
Narcotics and dangerous drugs -- implications for and  
responsibilities of US Intelligence (5)  
New directions in OSR support of US policy  
New directions in OCI support of US policy  
Current position of the US abroad (by non-Agency speakers  
such as Peterson, Flanagan, Schultz, David Kennedy)  
How does the new emphasis on regionalism (and regional  
organizations -- such as OPEC, IMF, UNCTAD, UNESCO)  
affect Agency operations?  
Seminar on the world Communist movement  
Efficiency in exploitation of open-source material in CIA  
ADP assistance to the political analyst  
Government sponsored external research and its relationship  
to in-house CIA research and analysis  
Free world military  
Free world science and technology  
Scientific and technical research (for background, even for  
economic analysts)  
Scientific and military needs (with OSI, FMSAC, OSR participation)  
Review of OSI's priorities  
Domestic political issues  
International relations  
Human relations factors in intelligence (in collection, dissem-  
ination, production)  
When there is a change in emphasis of a DDI or DDS&T production  
office (either in area or subject concern) it could be related  
to support groups such as CRS to make sure they can gear up for  
the impact when it comes

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